

Glenda Wiles

From: Shirley [shirley@constructionmonitor.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2008 2:52 PM
To: Glenda Wiles
Subject: 1 house per 2 acres

I would like to offer my opinion about the present requirement of no more than 1 house per 2 acres:

What is the purpose? I thought those who support this option, wanted to keep a more rural setting and atmosphere. I believe this requirement will most effectively take away the "rural setting" they desire. When you have a house here and there scattered over large acreage, you will not have enough open land for green fields and take away the "rural setting". From a farmers point of view: there is no way we can keep farming with the costs of production jumping so dramatically. (you do not want me to go into a length accounting discussion) If I could take 40 acres, build 10 houses on 10 of those acres, I could continue raising hay or pasture cattle on the other 30 acres and therefore be able to keep some of the farming beauty happening and keep some of the rural way of life. But if I can only get 5 houses out of that ten acres, the income is not sufficient to still continue with even a smaller portion of the farming enterprise. So instead, I will sell the entire 40 for 20 houses, where each house will have an acre of weed patch growing to infect the rest of the neighborhood.

Most households are spending all their time making a living and no one has time to come home from work and mow 1.5 acres of lawn. 1.5 acres is not sufficient to raise a horse, or fatten a beef, and barely enough for one goat. What would anyone do with 2 acres. Too much to mow and not enough for an animal.

How much prettier the community if the houses were on a half acre to an acre each, leaving enough acreage for a park the community could enjoy. Green fields to enjoy instead of the weed patch in everyone's backyard because no one has time to mow their two acres of weeds. which will be weeds because no one has the time to water two acres just so they have to mow it.

That is the opinion of Dan and I plus we have had this discussion in our household enough that I believe this opinion represents the other 4 of my children and their families who are living in Ravalli County.

Sincerely
Shirley Rasmussen

